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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**HEATWOLE PLEADS GUILTY TO ENTERING  
AIRPORT AREA IN VIOLATION OF SECURITY REQUIREMENTS**

**BALTIMORE**, Maryland - United States Attorney for the District of Maryland Thomas M. DiBiagio announced that Nathaniel Travis Heatwole, age 20, of Damascus, Maryland plead guilty today before U.S. Magistrate Judge Paul W. Grimm to an Information charging him with entering an airport area in violation of security requirements.

According to the statement of facts presented to the court, on September 14, 2003 Heatwole knowingly entered the security screening check point area at Baltimore Washington International Airport (BWI) in Anne Arundel County, Maryland with one or more of the following prohibited items in his possession: box cutter razor blades, strike-anywhere matches and liquid bleach.

"The government believes that the appropriate resolution of this case is a guilty plea to a misdemeanor rather than a felony because of the defendant's extensive cooperation with federal authorities. Other factors that were considered were the defendant's age, lack of prior criminal record and motivations for the misguided conduct," stated U. S. Attorney Thomas M. DiBiagio.

Heatwole faces a maximum penalty of one year in prison followed by one year of supervised release and a \$100,000 fine.

The case was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation sponsored Joint Terrorism Task Forces of Maryland and North Carolina, the Federal Air Marshal Service, Transportation Security Administration and the United States Attorney's Office, and is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Harvey E. Eisenberg.